

## Sample PARCC Lit. Analysis Essay Prompt for "Fish Cheeks" and "Taco Head"

In "Fish Cheeks" and "Taco Head," the narrators face internal conflicts because they come from families with traditions that are different from those of the larger American culture. By the end of each story, however, the narrator learns an important lesson that helps her to begin to accept her individuality. Write an essay in which you compare and contrast each narrator's internal conflict with her cultural difference and the lesson she learns about accepting one's own individuality.

***Tip: Use the prompt to help you write your essay's thesis statement.***

**Subject: "Fish Cheeks" and "Taco Head"**

**Opinion: What you're asked to write in the essay**

**Blueprint: What are your reasons? In which part(s) of the essay will you focus on finding evidence?**

**Thesis Statement:**

## **7B Student Model Introduction Paragraph for PARCC Practice Essay #5**

### **Introduction:**

As an immigrant, I know how it feels to stand out. I moved from Korea to America when I was around five years old. And while I've lived here for more than half my life, I am still Korean and I know I shouldn't hide who I really am. In "Fish Cheeks," by Amy Tan, and "Taco Head," by Viola Canales, both of the main characters feel ashamed about showing their culture to others, but learn that they should be proud of who they are with the help of an adult.

### **Body Paragraph #1: "Fish Cheeks"**

*Conflict -*

*Lesson -*

### **Body Paragraph #2: "Taco Head"**

*Conflict -*

*Lesson -*

### **Body Paragraph #3:**